



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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BMP Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

November 1, 2005

Portage County Annex Building, Stevens Point

Committee Members Present:

Lee Schauman, FISTA; Dave Stoiber, International Paper; Dan Kretz, Lake States Lumber Association; Steve Kariainen, SFI SIC; Gail Pierce, River Alliance of Wisconsin; Fred Souba, Stora Enso; Henry Schienebeck, Timber Producers Association; Larry Meicher, Trout Unlimited; Theresa Heyer, USFS; Mike Majeski, USFS; John DuPlissis; UWSP; Mary Platner, Wisconsin Association of Lakes; Miles Benson, Wisconsin Council on Forestry; Colette Matthews, Wisconsin County Forests Association; Jack Nedland, Barron County Forest; Jim Baumann, WDNR; Curt Wester, Wisconsin Professional Loggers Association; Becky Abel, Wisconsin Wetlands Association; Ed Moberg, Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association

DNR Staff Present:

Cynthia Blalack, Shane Lishawa, Kristin Shy, Carmen Wagner, Darrell Zastrow

Welcome and Introductions: John DuPlissis and Darrell Zastrow

John and Darrell welcomed the group and asked for introductions. John reviewed the agenda and asked for additional items.

Forestry BMP Advisory Committee Charge: Darrell Zastrow

Darrell reviewed the draft operational guidelines for the committee and the committee's draft charge. Committee members expressed concerns about the role of certification in the goals of this group. It was suggested that perhaps certification should be a side note and not part of an official charge. Additionally economics could be mentioned in the document. With the exception of the certification reference, it is generally agreed that all draft charge points are acceptable.

Changes will be made to the draft document and will be available for discussion at the next meeting.

Forestry BMP Program Accomplishments: Kristin Shy

Kristin provided a review of the accomplishments of the BMP program from 1995 to 2005. The presentation was based on a new document the Department is developing that reviews key accomplishments. Highlights include:

- The need for a voluntary BMP Program was prompted by the 1977 Clean Water Act and 1987 Water Quality Act.

- The BMP Manual was first printed in 1995 and was reprinted in 1997 and 2003. No changes were made to the BMPs.
 - Over 5000 people have attended DNR/FISTA BMP training sessions since 1994.
 - Over 500 timber sales have been monitored since 1995.
 - Overall, BMPs are correctly applied, where needed, 83% of the time and in those cases, 99% of the time, no adverse impacts were observed to water quality.
 - When BMPs are not applied, adverse impacts to water quality were observed 71% of the time.
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Forestry BMP Monitoring Objectives and 2003-2004 Results: Carmen Wagner

Up to this point in our monitoring effort, statistically significant results have only been available for non-industrial private forest (NIPF) landowners, because sampling sizes in the other categories have been insufficient.

In 2003 and 2004, the state and county forest landowner categories were sampled to obtain statistically valid results with a 95% confidence interval. This is the first time statistically significant results have been available for these landowner categories.

County Forests were monitored by the traditional 6-member teams, and the State Forests were monitored by a 3-member contracted team. Costs were comparable for each type of team and DNR staff workload was not significantly reduced.

The highlights of the 2003-2004 monitoring cycle include:

- BMPs were correctly applied, where needed, 90-93% of the time.
- When BMPs were applied, no adverse impact was observed 89-94% of the time.
- When BMPs were not applied, an adverse impact was observed 56-83% of the time.

Department staff will present proposals at the next Advisory Committee meeting for federal, industrial, and non-industrial private forest landowners for the 2006 monitoring cycle.

Issues Facing Future Monitoring Efforts: Carmen Wagner

Funding for the BMP Program is decreasing. Previously the Department had received funding from EPA Section 319 Clean Water Act monies. A high of \$89,000 was available in 1995 and since 2001, \$30,000 has been available. Due to federal cuts, that money is no longer available to the BMP Program. State funding for the program remains steady at \$60,000 a year. The money is used for LTE salaries and expenses, funding the FISTA BMP training programs, monitoring, publications, travel, and other costs.

The decrease in funding, \$30,000, is what it costs to complete a BMP monitoring cycle. In 2002 and 2003, costs of monitoring teams and contractors for BMP monitoring were calculated.

- 2002 Monitoring costs with teams: \$316/site = \$27,000 for 85 sites*
- 2003 Monitoring costs with contractors: \$595/site = \$16,600 for 28 sites*

*These costs do not include costs of determining site eligibility, providing training for monitoring teams, or DNR staff salaries.

The DNR staff workload for teams versus contractors is about equivalent. Based on discussions, DNR staff will prepare proposals for the 2006 monitoring cycle for federal, industrial, and non-industrial private forest landowners.

Future Monitoring Options: Theresa Heyer and Shane Lishawa

Theresa presented a review of the USFS regional monitoring protocol. The protocol provides measurable quantifiable results and increases accuracy and efficiency. Data is collected in a GPS or Pocket PC. The format is a dichotomous key with sequential questions and is more foolproof than others because one question leads to another.

The answer characteristics are readily measurable by the eye or simple instruments. Answer choices are ranges or specific measurements often based upon a threshold of impact. This protocol assesses such things as sediment movement: does sediment reach water body, how far it moved, and evidence of delivery.

The second phase of protocol is developing standardized report outputs. Upon collecting data using the standardized data collection protocol, there are various powerful statistical analyses and data outputs that can be created.

Shane reviewed the existing protocol used by the Department to monitor BMP application and effectiveness in Wisconsin. The committee had a general discussion of monitoring objectives, landowner categories, general site evaluation methods, monitoring worksheet, and use of results.

Shane also presented a research proposal that was developed with assistance from the Bureau of Integrated Science Services. It is a preliminary proposal to provide quantitative measurements of the effectiveness of the riparian management zone. The proposal includes one year of pre-harvest monitoring and two years of post-harvest monitoring.

Department staff will look into the effects of incorporating the USFS regional monitoring protocol with the current monitoring protocol. A key concern is whether the monitoring data from 1995 – 2005 would be able to be used if the monitoring protocol was changed.

Staff will also continue to work on the ISS research proposal and investigate funding options.

Draft Forestry BMP Outreach Plan: Kristin Shy

Kristin reviewed the draft 5 year education and outreach plan for the Forestry BMP Program. The goal is to help plan and prioritize initiatives and activities for the next 5 years. The plan addresses publications, displays, education and training opportunities, demonstration sites, monitoring and research, and web-pages.

At the next meeting, committee members will help refine and prioritize needs, but clear needs for information on permitting were identified.

Forestry BMP Manual: Kristin Shy

Kristin reviewed the process for updating the BMP manual that the Advisory Committee had previously approved and types of changes that may be made to manual, including small

changes, such as changing the layout and adding color, to large-scale changes, such as changing BMPs.

At the next meeting, the committee will discuss whether to initiate the first phase of reviewing the BMPs – gathering input.

Other Forestry-Related Items: Darrell Zastrow and Carmen Wagner

Certification and Rutting – State Forests have been certified by FSC and SFI. In 2004, the Department received a Corrective Action Request (CAR) from FSC to develop definable limits to acceptable rutting.

A first draft was created in June 2005 and a second was prepared in August 2005. The third draft is imminent. Drafts have been shared with the County Forests and Wisconsin Professional Loggers Association. The third draft will be much more broadly distributed for comment. Comments will be needed by December 31, 2005 to ensure that the Department can meet the deadline imposed by FSC.

Administrative rules – To keep up-to-date on the progress of proposed rule changes, please refer to: <http://adminrules.wisconsin.gov>. Copies of scoping statements, public hearing notices, and other related information are available there.

Ch. NR 46 - Along with the annual adjustment of timber stumpage rates in Ch. NR 46, Wis. Admin. Code, it is proposed to modify the reference to “soil conservation practices” to “best management practices for water quality”. Public hearings are planned in Spring 2006.

Ch. NR 102 – 40 waterways are proposed to be added to the ERW and ORW lists. Public hearings are planned for December 2005.

Ch. NR 115 – The public comment period ended in August. The rules are mostly concerned with development not forestry. The Department is working to compile and summarize over 12,000 comments that were received.

Ch. NR 320 – A “pink sheet” was approved to begin development of general permits for temporary stream crossings for forest management activities. Public hearings are planned for late winter/early spring 2006.

USCOE Silvicultural Exemption – Nothing has changed, but the COE may be looking at uses of forest roads more closely than they have in past.

Minnesota Forest Resources Council – A comprehensive scientific literature review is being prepared about riparian areas. Additionally, a cost-benefit analysis is being developed for RMZs and different management scenarios. MN staff will present information on this project at a future meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday February 7th, 2006. Best Western Midway, Wausau.

In case of inclement weather, a message will be found on Darrell Zastrow, John DuPlissis, and Carmen Wagner’s voice mail with meeting status information.